

the hill in gaggles brings you to the wild moor  
dark with patches of black bog. follow this road  
across the moor, you are in Lancashire.  
It is curious to see busy villages meeting in  
the smoke of mill chimneys rising from the very  
heart of these dark snow mountains; the valleys are  
often very lovely, & bare as the hills are, their  
long curves are not without a grandeur of  
their own. Perhaps the prettiest part of this  
corner of Yorkshire is the 'Valley of Godmorden'  
in the valley of the Calder. Here are mill chimneys  
it is true; but then, the mills rise by the river-  
side, while pleasant old houses show themselves  
amongst the trees. Godmorden itself is a cotton  
spinning town, upon whose institutions the late  
"King of Godmorden" (Plantagenet, Esq.) has left  
his mark.

A walk across Longwood Edge brings you to  
Slack, where there are certain "eld" or old, fields,  
where the farmers find their ploughs hindered by  
hard substances, which belong not to the soil, but to the  
rock of the district, & to the foundations of an  
ancient town. Amongst the various sites proposed  
for the ancient Roman & later, Saxon, city  
of Eborac, this at Slack is considered  
to have the most in its favour. It was, according  
to Bede, when the ancient church, (built by Paulinus,  
the whole royal 'village' of Eborac was  
burnt - that the Northumbrian king, made  
themselves a 'villa' in Eborac.

Not least amongst the clothing towns is Dewsbury  
in the pretty valley of the Calder, where there are  
blankets, carpet, & cloth factories, & shoddy  
mills.

mills. Now are important co-operative buildings,  
with, not only stores for all kinds of food, clothing, &c.  
but with <sup>provision</sup> ~~arrangements~~ for the recreation of the  
people - reading-rooms & a music hall. Within  
less than three miles of Doncaster is Batley, where  
are the largest shoddy mills. Now, bits of old  
woollen cloth & pale wools are taken into sheds, the  
wool is cleansed, goes through as many processes  
as if it had come newly off the sheep's back,  
is mixed with new wool & is, finally, made  
into various shoppings & clothes which 'look as  
good as new.'

### The Battle of Wakefield.

Wakefield, though at one time a busy clothing town,  
has long since dropped behind in the race with  
Leeds & Bradford. Now it is a pleasant market  
town where farmers bring their produce, corn,  
wool, &c. for sale; & along the banks of  
the Calder are immense magazines for  
the corn which is to feed the hungry mouths of  
the West Riding. Its Corn Exchange is the principal  
building of Wakefield, & after the well-known  
Market Lane Exchange, that of Halifax is the  
largest in England.

Now is a bridge here over the Calder, & dating from the reign of  
Edward III. & on the bridge a little chapel, the Chantry, which  
was built by Edward IV. for prayers might be said  
there for the soul of his father, & for those of his followers,  
because, on a spot close by the bridge, on the right bank  
of the Calder, the Duke of York was slain in the famous  
Battle of Wakefield (1460). In the autumn of 1460, it  
seemed as if the long conflict between the houses of  
York & Lancaster were in a fair way to be settled. The  
king was in the hands of the Duke of York, who proposed to

This England should be the chief profit of her excellent  
 works in sending them to the looms of Flanders to be  
 made up was matter of regret to various of her monarchs.  
 William the Conqueror, Edward I. Edward III, Henry VII.  
 & Queen Elizabeth were amongst the monarchs  
 who would Flemish weavers to settle in various  
 parts of England & Wales in order to teach their craft  
 to the English. It is probably to Edward III. that  
 Halifax owed its early prosperity, he showed a kindly  
 friendly to the Flemish weavers, & by degrees got  
 many families to settle in certain of his English  
 towns. Halifax was one of these.  
 The English were, at first, a little inclined to the  
 jealous of these foreigners & did not always treat  
 them well. But says Fuller "Happy the yeomen's  
 house into which one of these Dutchmen did enter,  
 bringing industry & wealth along with them  
 such who came in strangers, within doors, soon  
 after went out bridegrooms & returned sons in law  
 having married the daughters of their landlords  
 who first entertained them: yea, those yeomen  
 in whose houses they harboured soon became  
 gentlemen, gaining estates for themselves." It  
 is considered to this day, the dialect of the Halifax  
 folk betrays this admixture of Flemish blood.  
 Halifax presents a rather handsome appearance  
 as a town being built of brown freestone got from  
 quarries at hand. It has a fine fifteenth century  
 parish church with fragments of two more  
 ancient churches, - one of them with some claims  
 to Saxon origin - & a beautiful new church.  
 All Souls, built by Sir Gilbert Scott. Amongst  
 its public buildings, or a handsome town hall  
 large



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bright with golding, & a large Piece Hall, whose object is to sell the pieces (of stuff) as now brought to Bradford for sale. One of the curious interests of the town is, the site of the Halifax Gibbet, whereby Halifax had the right to execute thieves, if only with a consent of 13 $\frac{1}{2}$  - (on the great market days. By this Gibbet Law the Halifax weavers protected the long pieces of white / undyed cloth sketched upon tenter in the hill sides, & often left unmatched clay sniggle. At the "Horse & Crown" inn of this town some part of Robinson Crusoe was written while its author was in hiding on account of his political writings.

### Huddersfield, &c.

Huddersfield is another exceedingly well-to-do clothing town in the great coal field. Like Bradford & Halifax it is built of stone & has wide streets & good buildings & various admirable institutions. Now there a hundred mill chimneys are to be counted in the town alone, belonging to wool factories for the most part; & the pretty valleys which open on all sides hold many clothing villages. Going out of Huddersfield westward, you get into the moor country which forms the borderland between Lancashire & Yorkshire. Now so many Edges - Scout Edge, Longwood Edge, Stan Edge, Moss Edge, & many more - edges indeed for when you have climbed the long bar hill, you find it is really a sort of steps leading to the black moor at the top. Blackstone Edge, on the very border of Yorkshire, is the highest & the dreariest of these long bar hills. A winding road, which climbs

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he never forgot in after years - he set light  
to a hay stack into which he would have  
climbed.

Hereward grew up a wild lad, with a  
following of carles as wild as himself, &  
no youth in all the land could match  
him for strength or courage: he was fair  
& ruddy of countenance, with long  
golden hair, & strange eyes, one grey,  
the other blue: his dress would be not  
unlike that now worn by highlanders.

Upon a day, when he & his carles wanted  
money for their frolics, they met the  
monk Herlewin; & Hereward made him  
give up the silver pennies he was  
carrying home to his convent, & the four  
tippet he wore about his neck.

The monk went straight, & told the lady's  
mother. Very sad, & very full of wrath was  
the Lady Godiva, for Hereward had annoyed  
her many a time before by despising those  
whom she honoured as the servants of  
God.

This time, she sent a letter with the  
whole story, by a swift runner, to his  
father, who was with the king at Westminster.

"Justice, my lord the king!" cried the  
Stem Earl, as he entered the royal hall:  
and then he desired the king to make his  
young son an outlaw, a wolf's head,  
if

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administers a sound beating with her fists, or even a sound kicking to her refractory daughter. Yet, though often quarrelling, mother & daughter are very fond of one another.

The peasant of the interior, be he farm-labourer, black-smith, fruit-seller, water-carrier, gipsy, horse-dealer, or what he may, is ill fed, ill-housed, ill-clothed, or rather, unclothed, ill-clothed, uncared for; a hopeless, speechless being, he seems upraised to read, or write, or think, or love, or hope, or pray, or plan.

Come for a stroll into the campos, or wild country, & visit the hut of a poor fruit-seller. His little shanty, or hut, stands alone amidst the thistles, near his dry, half-titled garden; it is formed of three walls of red stone, bound together with mud mortar; it is roofed with reeds from the quadrangular, its door is a hurdle, lined with green brushwood & rushes. There is one rough settle in the dark room, & on it lie the two "orientals". The floor is the earth and dust.

Here is the mistress, a knife stuck in her girdle. You must not look for beauty, or tidiness in her wooden, mahogany-coloured face, & you wonder at her stride, like a man's, & her

unmolested



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referring to some piece of work performed by the 9<sup>th</sup> Legion  
a monumental stone inscribed with the name of a  
standard-bearer of the 9<sup>th</sup> Legion, a shield some  
implements of war, &c. This information becomes  
more definite with the arrival of Severus, (A.D. 208).  
It is not certain whether he found a walled city, or  
whether the walls of York were raised by his legions,  
but the beginning of the third century is the date commonly  
assigned to them. At <sup>York</sup> ~~some~~ <sup>York</sup> had become the  
imperial city of Britain exhibiting much of the  
luxury & refinement of Roman life. So, on the evidence  
of a single find in the Roman Cemetery which  
was unearthed in 1873 in preparing the site of  
the North Eastern Railway Station, it is evident that  
Eboracum was a colonia - that is, Romans were  
settled here as possessors of the land, the institutions of  
Rome were adopted intact. This is discovery in question  
is that of a scopium with an inscription for Securis  
of York, a local magistrate. The walls of Eboracum were  
not co-extensive with the existing walls. They were  
congruent to the left-hand of the <sup>newly</sup> built <sup>from</sup> square, &  
included a comparatively small space of about 2000  
ft. by 1,150. There is a fragment of this wall still in existence  
& what is more interesting, the Mullangeton tower which  
stood at one angle of the Roman city, is now within the  
enclosure of St. Mary's Abbey. The grounds belong to  
the Yorkshire Philosophical Society. The lower walls  
of the tower have the strong character of Roman tiles  
characteristic of Roman masonry. Severus came  
here before beginning his disastrous campaign against  
the Picts, kept his headquarters for some time & from  
here in his absence, welcomed a York to his. Nearly  
a century later, Constantine made York an  
imperial residence; he died here; this son Constantine  
claimed as an English-born emperor though

which the unhappy Richard II was confined, but not trace of  
it remains. In the civil war, as first decided taken by  
the Royalists under the Marquis of Newcastle, & retaken  
the following year (1643) by Sir Thomas Fairfax. The  
first-manufacturing industry of Leeds was probably  
begun in the homesteads of the valley & has been  
as the reign of Edward III. The beginning of the  
present century saw a sudden increase in the  
prosperity & population of the town, which now contains  
over 300,000 inhabitants.

### Bradford.

Ranking next to Leeds as a 'clothing' town is  
Bradford which has long been known as the  
'metropolis of woollen'; but Bradford produces  
every sort of soft woollen material, perhaps it is  
better to say that all woollen goods which are not  
felted, or pulled after being woven are made here.  
The town lies in a valley amongst the rolling  
hills which lie between the Aire & the Calder, & rather  
the heart of the town is in the valley, but the pleasant  
suburbs & some of the best streets & shops occupy  
the slopes down any of the hill sides hemming in  
the town you see Bradford lying in the hollow, the  
houses clustering thickly, a church steeples here  
other small chimneys - something like two hundred  
of them - many everywhere, sometimes scattered far  
apart, sometimes gathered together by the score. Putting  
all this in to be seen if the town is under a less  
dense veil of smoke than usually covers it.  
The hills about Bradford contain good building stone  
& many an open quarry scars their sides in  
circumstance, while it gives a raw bleak look  
to the surrounding landscape, adds greatly to  
the appearance of the town, whose hard stone buildings  
are to



just it a substantial well-to-do air. Bradford has  
again been built with a tall bell-tower, as well as several  
other handsome public buildings - the new market  
the exchange, the technical college, &c. & these, with  
the streets of flint wall, built-warehouses, the well-stored  
shops in the town & the pleasant villas of the  
merchants & manufacturers on its outskirts  
give Bradford the appearance of a city of importance.  
Some architecture appears to the writer to be more  
successful in Bradford & some of the Yorkshire  
towns than it is in the suburbs of the metropolis  
for instance. We have no space to speak of the excellent  
schools & other places of education, the libraries, the  
admirable schemes for the education of the people  
& for the aid of the unfortunate, which here, as in Leeds  
on other Yorkshire towns, speak well for the republican  
spirit & wisdom of the town people. In Bradford,  
as in Leeds, the mills are the most-magnificent  
building of the town, but are, at the same time, the  
most interesting. Here are made the merinoes, alpacas,  
scoop-dress stuffs with many names for ladies'  
dresses, twilled cloth for jacket & coats, broad  
for trimming, & fifty other materials. Silk goods -  
silks & satins, plushes & velvets - are produced  
at the Manningham Mill, a place for size & grand  
appearance, the largest-manufacture of the kind,  
where some 3,000 hands are employed.

The work people themselves interested us more than  
the astonishing machinery of the mills, & the 'mill-hands'  
of the West Riding are pleasant-folk to know. They  
have as comfortable homes as any work-people in England  
have, as is very commonly the case, they or others.  
The street-door opens into a bright-pleasant-living room  
with a good chest of drawers, a sofa, & very likely a  
piano in it; with ornaments & pictures too, or sometimes  
a cat.

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find much intellectual pleasure & <sup>enjoyment</sup> ~~enjoyment~~ <sup>enjoyment</sup> culture in their Sunday avocations, as is proved by the fact that attendance at Sunday School is continued even during married life in most manufacturing towns; & the congregational singing which forms part of the various Sunday service is a real delight to people blessed with fine voices & true ear, who are seldom without some degree of musical training.

The Bradford Mills close at 5.30 P.M.; thus the operatives have a long evening to spend <sup>in</sup> pleasure, seeking or upon personal improvement, for which many opportunities are put in their way. Elementary instruction is self-provided for, & besides, there are evening classes for Art, Sciences, Mathematics, Languages, all well taught & well attended by working people. We have only space to notice one more fact illustrative of the status of the worsted operatives in Bradford; the town has a Free Public Library, established under the recent act, which contains some 27,000 volumes, & in addition, is well supplied with the public journals. 9,000 readers in the News Room & Reading Rooms is an ordinary weekly average, 1,600 of these being women; that is to say, upwards of 1400 persons, on an average, read in these rooms in a single day & besides this, some 5,000 borrowers take books to their homes. These numbers very fairly represent the 'reading public' among the labouring classes, an excellent subscription library is supported by the town.

Charles D. Mason.